

**DeSoto County
Beef Newsletter**
2150 NE Roan Street,
Arcadia, FL 34266

We have been notified by UF IFAS Administration that by November 2009, our Bulk Mail Account used to mail this Newsletter will disappear. If you are willing to receive this Newsletter by e-mail, please provide us with an address. For those that can't, I will work on a way to continue getting you a paper version. **Jim**



March 2009 / Volume 31 Number 3

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Internal Parasites

March

11	Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health, Parasite Diagnostics, 8:00AM – 5:00PM, DeSoto County Extension Office Work Room
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April

4	Performance Horse Short Course, 8:30AM – 3:30PM, Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center
14	Southeast Beef Cattle Marketing School, 8:30AM – 5:00PM, Turner Center Exhibit Hall
16	UF/IFAS Ona Range Cattle Station Field Day, Ona, FL
23	DeSoto County Cattlemen's Association Annual Spring Meeting, 7:00PM, Turner Center Exhibit Hall, Arcadia, FL
29- May 1	58 th Annual Florida Beef Cattle Short Course, Hilton University of Florida Conference Center, Gainesville, FL

FEDS CUT OFF WATER FOR AGRICULTURE--CALIFORNIA

Farmers in California are reeling after an announcement Friday by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation that no water is available for agriculture use, the result of a worsening drought. San Joaquin Valley farmers will be hit hard, as the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation supplies more than 80 percent of the water to the valley. Farms supplied water by the state will still receive 15 percent of their normal deliveries. Early reports indicate that more than 75,000 jobs will be lost, \$2 billion will disappear from the economy and more than 1 million acres will not have access to above-ground water. Farmers will be forced to take water away from annual crops and use available groundwater to keep permanent crops alive. This means an even greater dependence placed on the groundwater supply, already overtaxed in many parts of the valley. To drill a well varies from \$20,000 to \$1 million, depending upon depth. In some parts of California, underground water reservoirs have been emptied by overuse and over-drilling of wells. In other areas, the aquifer might not produce any water or it is not good quality. **California's drought could cause an estimated \$1.15 billion loss in agriculture-related wages and eliminate as many as 40,000 jobs in farm-related industries in the San Joaquin Valley alone, where most of the nation's produce and nut crops are grown. The state's agriculture industries normally receive 80 percent of all water supplies managed by the federal government. The state supplies drinking water to 23 million residents and 755,000 acres of irrigated farmland. Source—Drovers Alert, February 26, 2009—Volume 10, Issue 8.**

U. S. MEAT PRODUCTION DECLINES

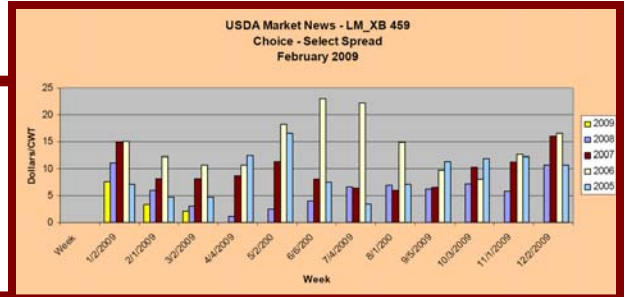
According to last Friday's USDA Livestock Slaughter report, red meat production for January totaled 4.170 billion pounds, 6 percent less than that during January 2008. Beef production, at 2.118 billion pounds, was down 5 percent from the January 2008 total of 2.232 billion. Cattle slaughter during January totaled 2.718 million head, 6 percent less than the 2.898 million reported a year ago. The average live weight of 1,306 pounds was 15 pounds heavier than the January 2008 average of 1,291 pounds. Veal, pork and lamb production also fell behind last year's totals. **Source—Drovers Alert, February 26, 2009—Volume 10, Issue 8.**

MARKET INFORMATION

March 2, 2009

	2/28/09	Last Week	Last Year
5 AREA WEEKLY WEIGHTED CATTLE PRICE			
Live Steer	81.56	79.48	93.00
Live Heifer	81.39	79.55	93.02
Dressed Steer	129.47	128.27	148.11
Dressed Heifer	129.47	127.69	148.18

http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/lm_ct150.txt



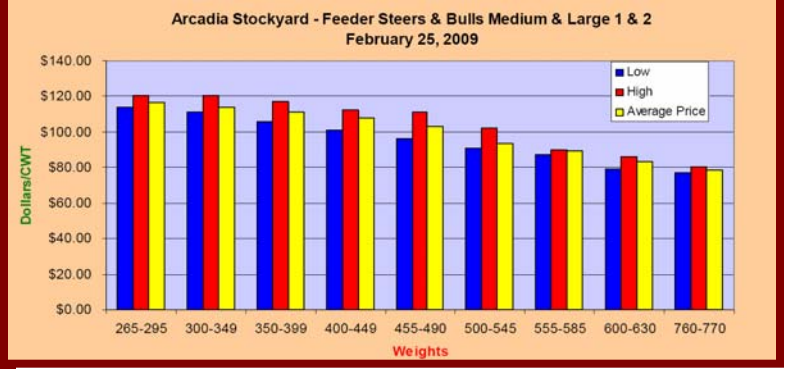
	2/28/09	Last Week	Last Year
BEEF PRODUCTION	(Estimate)	(Estimate)	(Actual)
Slaughter	618,000	615,000	632,000
Live Weights	1313	1312	1286
Dressed Weights	790	789	777
Beef Production (M. of Pounds)	486.1	483.2	489.2

http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SJ_LS712.txt

Choice/Select Spread
3/2/09
\$2.10/cwt
http://marketnews.usda.gov/gear/browseby/txt/LM_XB403.TXT

	2/14/09	Last Week	Last Year
National Grading Percent			
Prime	2.25%	2.58%	2.43%
Choice	56.16%	60.38%	57.73%
Select	26.72%	29.40%	31.76%

http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/NW_LS196.txt



The summary below reflects the week ending February 27, 2009 for Medium and Large 1 -- 500- to 550-lb., 600- to 650-lb., and 700- to 750-lb. heifers and steers. **Source: USDA National Feeder and Stocker Summary.**

State	Volume	Steers			Heifers		
		500-550 lbs.	600-650 lbs.	700-750 lbs.	500-550 lbs.	600-650 lbs.	700-750 lbs.
Calf Weight							
TX	21,300	\$97.76	\$93.51	\$92.24	\$89.32	\$83.65	\$82.17
AL	8,700	\$98-103	\$87-96	\$78-84	\$79-88	\$75-82	\$70-75
TN	4,900	\$97.32	\$86.48	\$80.20	\$80.95	\$73.72	\$71.40
FL	7,400	\$81-102	\$79-86	\$77-80	\$75-86	\$72-81	No Report
GA	6,400	\$80-94	\$73-89	\$70-79	\$70-88	\$68-79	\$64-72
KY	19,600	\$104.03	\$91.44	\$82.28	\$84.45	\$77.66	\$76.52
OK	32,800	\$106.25	\$98.02	\$91.18	\$92.22	\$87.28	\$82.68
MO	34,300	\$109.45	\$99.93	\$91.28	\$94.55	\$87.89	\$84.24

CORN:

Kansas City US No 2 rail White Corn was 5 cents lower to 1 cent higher from 3.90-3.98 per bushel. Kansas City US No 2 truck Yellow Corn was 12 to 16 cents higher at 3.62 per bushel. Omaha US No 2 truck Yellow Corn was 9 to 10 cents higher from 3.51-3.58 per bushel. Chicago US No 2 Yellow Corn was 8 ¼ to 11 ¼ cents higher from 3.47-3.70 per bushel. Toledo US No 2 rail Yellow corn was 8 ¼ to 12 ¼ cents higher from 3.66-3.69 per bushel. Minneapolis US No 2 Yellow Corn rail was 9 ¼ cents higher at 3.36 per bushel. **Source: USDA Weekly National Grain Market Review, Friday February 27, 2009** http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SJ_GR851.txt

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FAWN—DESOTO COUNTY ANNUAL RAINFALL—2009 [HTTP://DESOTO.IFAS.UFL.EDU/](http://desoto.ifas.ufl.edu/)

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	Total
2009	0.32"	0.37"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	0.69"
2008	1.87"	1.51"	2.52"	3.33"	2.55"	7.09"	6.79"	8.42"	2.69"	2.12"	0.27"	1.14"	40.30"
2007	1.93"	2.09"	0.81"	2.80"	2.28"	5.04"	5.42"	5.57"	4.56"	1.46"	0.05"	0.78"	32.79"
2006	0.32"	3.26"	0.97"	0.14"	2.07"	2.71"	5.84"	9.30"	4.15"	1.36"	0.81"	2.13"	33.06"
2005						9.71"	8.73"	5.86"	4.03"	8.78"	3.78"	0.11"	NA

FAWN—DESOTO COUNTY HIGH & LOW TEMPERATURES (2 METERS) AT THE EXTENSION OFFICE

HIGH	82.8°	85.5°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	NA
LOW	26.0°	26.2°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	NA

Rainfall for 2009 is 2.69 inches behind 2008—3.80" behind 108 Year Average

EXTERNAL PARASITES ON BEEF CATTLE



Black flies (above) are small, dark, stout-bodied flies with a humpbacked appearance. The adult females blood feed mainly during daylight hours and are not host specific. The black fly is a potential disease vector in Florida. It hovers about the eyes, ears and nostrils of animals, often alighting and puncturing the skin with an irritating bite. Large numbers of bites may cause weakness from blood loss, anaphylactic shock or death.



The horn fly (above) is one of the most serious pests of cattle in Florida. It causes pain, annoyance and interference with feeding, resting and other normal activities. The fly pierces the skin to blood feed and is a persistent biter. With high summertime populations, they cause cattle to lose weight and lower milk production. Horn flies may cause open sores on the head and underline, which can predispose the animals to secondary infection. Flies tend to cluster at preferred sites on the host (primarily the withers and back). Because of their piercing and sucking mouth parts, they are suspected of mechanically transmitting anaplasmosis and other diseases within the herd.



Horse flies and deer flies, also called Tabanids, are insects that are usually strong fliers. As with mosquitoes, only females bite. They are usually daytime feeders and are vicious biters. Their attacks often account for lowered weight gains and lowered milk production. Because of their painful bites and frequent attacks, horse flies produce frenzied behavior in their hosts, sometimes causing them to run long distances in an effort to escape. Florida has more than 122 kinds of horse and deer flies with some species present most times of the year.



**Source: ENY-274
External Parasites on
Beef Cattle, UF/IFAS,
EDIS Publication.**

Beef Management Calendar

March/April

Check mineral feeder.

Check for external parasites and treat if needed.

Deworm cows as needed.

Identify, vaccinate, implant, and work late calves.

Cull cows that failed to calve & market in April.

Check for lice and treat if necessary.

Fertilize pasture to stimulate early growth and get fertilizer incorporated in grass roots while there is still good soil moisture. Fertilize ryegrass if necessary.

Vaccinate against blackleg and brucellosis after 3 months of age and before 12 months of age.

LONG-TERM IMPACT OF GRAIN PRICES

Grain prices have dropped significantly from last year's peak, but the impact of higher prices will continue to affect livestock production, according to a new report from USDA's Economic Research Service. Manufacturers, the report notes, make decisions on the amount and timing of production based on input costs and the expected product price. Manufacturers may react to a significant increase in the price of a variable input, such as energy, by reducing production. Biology, however, prevents livestock producers from instantly responding to price changes. The timeline for meat production — from farm to retail — ranges from 2 months for poultry meat to 2 years for beef. From the time a female is bred, it takes about 9 to 10 months to expand milk production, 30 months to produce a steak, 10 months for a pork roast and 10 weeks for a chicken breast. Record-high grain, oilseed and energy prices between 2006 and 2008 increased the costs of producing and marketing meat and dairy products. Expecting feed and energy costs to remain high, livestock producers began to cut back on animal and dairy production. But just as producers were making their livestock-production decisions for 2009, feed prices began to decline. The dollar strengthened, which lowered exports, and worldwide economic growth began to slow. As a result of decisions made before the end of 2008, livestock production will likely grow more slowly in 2009 and could begin to decline. Because of this, consumers can expect to pay higher prices for meat and dairy products through 2009, even as the costs of feeding and raising livestock decline.

Source—Drovers Alert, February 26, 2009—Volume 10, Issue 8.

INTERVET SCHERING-PLOUGH PARASITOLOGIST SAMPLE DIAGNOSIS

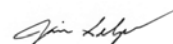
On March 11, 2009, a parasitologist, courtesy of Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health, will be set up all day at our office to do parasite diagnostics of fecal samples from your herd. Dr. Don Bliss owns Mid-America Ag Research Company based out of Verona, Wisconsin and he has many published articles on parasites. Samples should be taken as fresh as possible, should contain about a golf-ball amount of fecal material and should be enclosed in a zip lock sandwich plastic bag (squeeze out air). Put the individual samples (4-6) into a larger resealable bag and identify by date and herd. Refrigerate to ensure each sample is sufficiently cooled if taking prior to the 11th. The sample should be a rectal or an observed freshly dropped sample. Unless the demand is over whelming, results should be available that day.

UF/IFAS ONA RANGE CATTLE STATION CATTLE AND FORAGE FIELD DAY

Mark your calendar for April 16, 2009 and plan to attend the UF/IFAS Ona Range Cattle Station Cattle and Forage Field Day. See page 7 of this newsletter for detailed information.

PLANT CLOSURES CAUSE TURMOIL IN BRAZILIAN CATTLE INDUSTRY

Brazil's fourth largest Brazilian exporter of beef has halted slaughtering operations at all 11 of its plants and sent workers home, local Brazilian media reports. In addition, Independencia has not paid cattle suppliers for several days and has returned most cattle to suppliers. According to the Brazilian Secretary of External Commerce Independencia was the fourth-largest Brazilian exporter of fresh and frozen beef and one of the leading Brazilian producers of leather in 2007. As of last December 31, Independencia's total daily slaughter capacity was approximately 12,000 head of cattle and its daily leather processing capacity was approximately 10,000 hides (not including additional outsourced capacity of 3,000 hides per day). Brazilian development bank BNDES is reported to have a 33% stake (204 million US dollars) in Independencia. Source---Beef Daily, March 2, 2009



James F. Selph
DeSoto County Extension Director, IV, Livestock & Forages

"No occupation is so delightful to me as the culture of the earth, and no culture comparable to that of the garden". Thomas Jefferson

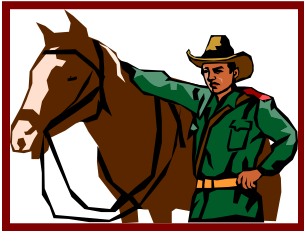
SUMMARY OF BEEF CATTLE INSECTICIDE REGISTRATIONS

Insecticide	Formulation	% Active Ingredient	Signal Word	Pests
Beta-cyfluthrin (CyLence Ultra)	Ear Tag	8.0%	Caution	horn flies, Gulf Coast ticks, Spinose ear ticks (Reg 06/05)
Coumaphos (Co-Ral Emulsifiable) (Co-Ral Plus)	Emulsifiable Concentrate	11.6%	Danger	horn flies, lice, ticks (Reg 06/05)
	Ear Tag	20.0%	Caution	Gulf Coast ticks, horn flies, Spinose ear ticks (Reg 06/05)
Cyfluthrin (Cutter Gold) (CyLence)	Ear Tag	10.0%	Caution	Gulf Coast ticks, horn flies, Spinose ear ticks (Reg 06/05)
	Pour-On	1.0%	Warning	horn flies, lice (Reg 06/05)
Diazinon (Cutter 1) (Optimizer) (Patriot)	Ear Tag	40.0%	Warning	Gulf Coast ticks, horn flies, Spinose ear ticks (Reg 06/05)
	Ear Tag	21.4%	Warning	Gulf Coast ticks, horn flies, lice, Spinose ear ticks (Reg 03/06)
	Ear Tag	40.0%	Warning	ear ticks, horn flies (Reg 06/07)
Diazinon + Chlorpyrifos (Warrior)	Ear Tag	30.0% + 10.0%	Warning	biting lice, Gulf Coast ticks, horn flies, Spinose ear ticks, sucking lice (Reg 03/06)
Ethion (Commando)	Ear Tag	36.0%	Warning	ear ticks, horn flies (Reg 06/07)
Lambda-cyhalothrin (Saber Pour-On Insecticide)	Pour-On	1.0%		horn flies, lice (Reg 06/07)
Methoprene (Altosid Premix)	Feed Additive (IGR)	0.4%	Caution	horn flies (Reg 12/05)
Moxidectin (Cydectin Pour-On)	Pour-On	0.50%		cattle grubs, horn flies, lice
Permethrin (Atroban 11% EC Insecticide) (Atroban 42.5%) (Boss Pour-On Insecticide) (Brute Insecticide for Cattle) (Catron IV)	Emulsifiable Concentrate	11.0%		black flies, eye gnats, horn flies, horse flies, house flies, lice, mange mites, mosquitoes, scabies mites, stable flies, ticks (Reg 06/07)
	Emulsifiable Concentrate	42.5%	Danger	horn flies, horse flies, house flies, lice, mites, mosquitoes, stable flies, ticks (Reg 06/07)
	Pour-On	5.0%		horn flies, lice (Reg 06/07)
	Ready-To-Use-Liquid	10.0%	Warning	horn flies, lice (Reg 03/06)
	Aerosol	0.5%	Caution	deer flies, horn flies, horse flies, house flies, gnats, screwworms (Reg 06/07)
(GardStar 40% EC) (GardStar Plus)	Emulsifiable Concentrate	40.0%	Danger	black flies, deer flies, eye gnats, horn flies, horse flies, house flies, lice, mange mites, mosquitoes, scabies mites, stable flies, ticks (Reg 03/06)
	Ear Tag	10.0%	Caution	Gulf Coast ticks, horn flies, Spinose ear ticks (Reg 03/06)
(Permethrin) (Permethrin II) (Ultra Boss Pour-On)	Pour-On	1.0%	Caution	(Reg 06/07)
	Emulsifiable Concentrate	10.0%	Caution	horn flies, horse flies, lice, mites, mosquitoes, stable flies, ticks (Reg 06/07)
	Pour-On	5.8%		horn flies, lice (Reg 06/07)
Permethrin (Synergized) (Permethrin CDS) (Synergized Delice Pour-On Insecticide)	Pour-On	7.4%	Caution	horn flies, lice (Reg 06/07)
	Pour-On	1.0%		horn flies, lice (Reg 06/07)
Phosmet (Delphos Emulsifiable Liquid) (Prolate/Lintox-HD)	Emulsifiable Concentrate	11.6%		Gulf Coast ear ticks, horn flies, lice, Lone Star ticks, sarcoptic mange, winter ticks (Reg 06/07)
	Emulsifiable Concentrate	11.75%	Danger	horn flies, lice ticks (Reg 12/05)
Tetrachlorvinphos (Rabon 7.76 Oral Larvacide Premix) (Ravap E.C.)	Feed Additive	7.76%	Caution	horn flies, house flies, stable flies (Reg 03/07)
	Emulsifiable Concentrate	23.0%	Danger	gnats, horn flies, lice, ticks (Reg 09/06)
Zeta-cypermethrin (Python) (Python Dust)	Ear Tag	10.0%	Caution	Gulf Coast ticks, horn flies, lice, Spinose ear ticks (Reg 03/06)
	Dust		Caution	horn flies, keds, lice, ticks (Reg 03/06)

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Saturday, April 4, 2009



“Performance Horse Short Course”
Featuring: **Bob Myler, World Renowned Bit Maker**



University of Florida/IFAS
The South Florida Beef/Forage Program
Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center
4601 Highway 710 E
Okeechobee, FL

Functionality is key to your success and profitability. The following presentations provide insight to a more successful horse and rider team.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| AM | PM |
| 8:30 <u>Registration /Trade Show Opens</u> | 12:00 <u>Lunch / Trade Show</u> |
| 9:00 “Bit Selection”, Bob Myler, Bit Maker, Marshfield, MO | 1:00 “Weed Control in Horse Pastures”, Brent Sellers, PhD, UF/IFAS Weed Specialist, Ona Range Cattle REC |
| 9:45 “Equine Nutrition”, Lori Warren, PhD, Equine Nutritionist, Animal Science Dept., University of Florida | 2:00 “Gastric Ulcers”, (Live Animal Demo.), Mike Porter, DVM, PhD, UF Mobile Equine, Diagnostic Service (MEDS), Assistant Professor, UF College of Veterinary Medicine |
| 10:30 <u>Trade Show Break</u> | |
| 11:15 “Parasite Control”, Lindsey Wiggins, Livestock Agent I, UF/IFAS Hendry County Extension | |

Performance Horse Short Course
Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center

Please Print

Name _____

Organization _____
(4-H/FFA, High School/Jr. Rodeo, NBHA)

Address _____

County _____

Registration Includes:
All seminars, trade show, and lunch.
Postmarked on or before March 20, 2009.

_____ \$15 Registration fee
_____ \$5 FFA or 4-H members
(membership card required @ gate)
Postmarked after March 20, 2009 or pay @ gate fee.

_____ \$30 Late Registration fee or pay @ gate
_____ \$10 Late FFA or 4-H members

Trade Show Includes:

Feed Companies	Western Décor
Seed Companies	Herbicide Companies
Clothing	Tack Plus many more!

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:
The South Florida Beef Forage Program
Mail to:
Lindsey Wiggins
Po Box 68
LaBelle, FL 33935

Persons requiring special accommodations per the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact Lindsey Wiggins at (863) 6744902 at least (5) five working days prior to the event.



Thursday, April 16, 2009

**University of Florida/IFAS
Range Cattle Research & Education Center
Cattle and Forage Field Day**

**~ Special Event ~
Dedication of New Buildings
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony With Florida Cattlemen's Foundation**

~ Directions from Arcadia ~

From SR 70 in Arcadia travel west about 1.5 miles to CR 661. Take a right on CR 661 and travel about 12 miles to Goose Pond Road. Take a left on Goose Pond Road and travel 1.5 miles. Turn left onto Experiment Station Road. Travel about a mile to reach the Range Cattle REC offices and facilities.

Afternoon Field Tours

- A) Tour new facilities
- B) Forage research plots
- C) Weed and forage garden

D) Pasture fertilization research plots

There is no charge for the day's program or lunch, however we must have your completed registration form by April 8th to ensure adequate literature and lunch arrangements are made. Thank you.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

E-mail: _____

Additional person(s):

Please detach and send to:

**Field Day 2009
Range Cattle REC
3401 Experiment Station
Ona, FL 33865**



**E-mail: ona@ifas.ufl.edu
Phone: 863-735-1314 ext 201
Fax: 863-735-1930**

- 9:00 AM Sign in
- 9:30 AM Welcome and Introductions -
Dr. John Arthington, Director
- 9:45 AM Opening Remarks
Dr. Larry Arrington
UF-IFAS Senior Vice President
- 10:00 AM Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
Jim Handley
Executive Vice President
Florida Cattlemen's Association
and
Dr. John Arthington, Director

Faculty Presentations

- 10:30 AM Forage Nutritive Value: What is the value of purchased hay?
Joe Vendramini, Assistant Professor
- 11:00 AM Combating Hard to Control Weeds
Brent Sellers, Assistant Professor
- 11:30 AM Pasture Fertilization Decisions
Maria Silveira, Assistant Professor
- 12:00 PM Steak Lunch



Tuesday, April 14, 2009

Southeast Beef Cattle Marketing School



Your Experts for Life

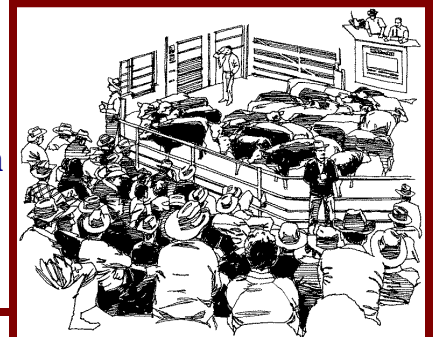
CLEMSON
EXTENSION



University of Florida/IFAS
DeSoto County Extension
The South Florida Beef Forage Program



Schedule of Events:



8:30 AM	Registration	
9:00	Welcome and overview	Jim Selph, DeSoto County Extension Agent
9:15	Cattle market outlook for 2009	Walt Prevatt, Auburn Livestock Economist
10:15	Developing a marketing plan	Todd Davis, Clemson Agricultural Economist
10:45	Break	
11:00	Seasonality of cattle prices	Curt Lacy, Georgia Agricultural Economist
11:30	Using futures to predict cash prices	Walt Prevatt, Auburn Livestock Economist
12:15PM	Lunch	Sponsored
1:00	Price factors, USDA grades and market news reports	Terry Harris, USDA Market News Service
2:00	Break	
2:15	Adding value to the cattle you sell	Jim Selph, DeSoto County Extension Agent
2:45	Marketing opportunities at your local livestock market	Carl McKetrick, Manager, Arcadia Stockyards
3:15	Program evaluation	Jim Selph, DeSoto County Extension Agent
3:30	Adjourn	

Helping cattlemen better understand the cattle market, to add value to the cattle they sell at their local Livestock Market. Don't delay, sign up now!!

What you will learn:

- Market outlook for 2009 and beyond.
- The best and worst best times of the year to sell.
- Techniques to estimate cattle prices in advance.
- Factors that affect prices for individual calves and cows.
- Things to consider to avoid price discounts.
- Methods to increase total value of cattle sold.
- Marketing opportunities available through your local market.

Please return the registration form or call 863-993-4846 to make your reservations for this program.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____-_____

E-mail: _____

Meal Sponsored by:

